

REMARKS

This application is a divisional application of parent application Serial No. 10/343,701, filed February 3, 2003, now U.S. Pat. No. 7,057,300, issued on June 6, 2006. A preliminary amendment canceled claims 1 to 7 and 9 to 15 (without prejudice or disclaimer to their underlying subject matter) which are the elected claims from the parent application. Claims 8 and 16-18 (of non-elected Group II from the parent application) remain in the present application for prosecution on the merits. No new matter has been entered.

This paper is thus in full and timely response to the Office Action of March 13, 2006. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully of the rejections of claims 8 and 16 to 18 as pending for that action.

Claim to Priority

It is noted with appreciation that the certified copies in support of the claim to priority have been received and the claim acknowledged.

Drawings

It is also noted that the drawings filed on October 21, 2003 with this divisional application are accepted.

Information Disclosure Statement

It is further noted with appreciation that the IDS filed with this divisional application has been initialed and returned with this pending Action.

Specification

As noted above, the substitute specification has been amended to make the change at page 4, line 9 that was suggested by the examiner, and to update the status of the parent application. Entry of these amendments is solicited and withdrawal of the objection to the specification warranted.

Rejection of claims 8 and 16 to 18 on the grounds of obviousness-type double patenting.

This rejection, spanning pages 3 and 4, state obviousness-type double patent rejections over claims 11 to 16 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,955,993. The rejection is respectfully traversed in that a side-by-side comparison of the rejected pending claims is not provided with a comparison to the cited claims; if that were done, the differences would probably not be held to be obviousness on a claim to claim comparison. Nevertheless, to advance the prosecution of this application to finality, and in view of the chain of pendency of this application, a Terminal Disclaimer is provided to overcome this rejection based on the '993 patent.

Rejection of claims

Claims 16 and 17 were rejected as allegedly being anticipated by the patent to Takahashi, No. 6,168,890. Without indicating agreement with or acquiescence in the statement of the rejection, these claims are amended to advance the prosecution to finality.

Specifically, claim 16 is amended along the lines of the related application that is now U.S. Pat. No. 7,057,300 (copy attached). The limitations along the lines of claim 1 of the patent are added to the pending claim 16 to distinguish over the cited '890 reference. Similarly, claim 17 is amended to incorporate many of the limitations of patented claim 1 to refer to the claimed struts connected to the support frame, noting that the thin film formed at the opposite side of the struts is thinner than the support frame and have the same shape and size among all of a plurality of 2 x 2 arrangement masks, and further noting that the arrangement of blocks in the arrangement masks are different from each other.

Takahashi does not meet these added limitations to claims 16 and 17, so withdrawal of the rejection is therefore in order.

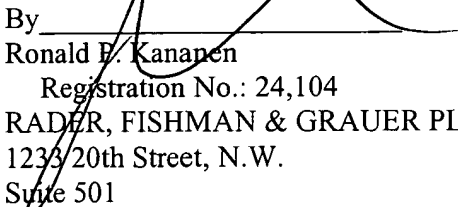
Conclusion

Claims 8 and 16 to 18, all of the claims presently pending are patentable; claims 8 and 18 are now allowable because of the submission of a Terminal Disclaimer, while claims 17 and 18 are patentable because of the limitations drawn from claim 1 of the related '993 patent for the apparatus, so that the method is now allowable as well.

Should there be any questions regarding the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: June 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix: Substitute Specification